

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
OF THE

whole world.

WHEREIN IS PARTIALLY

described, all the Monarchies,
Empires, and Kingdoms of the same;
with the names of the

SEVERAL

5166

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A
BRIEFE DESCRIP-
TION OF THE WHOLE
WORLD.



He globe of the earth,
doth eyther shew the sea, or land.
The sea generall, is called by the
name of the OCEAN, which
coasteth all the world, and taketh
his name in speciall, eyther of the
place neere which it commeth: as
Oceanus Britannicus: *Mare Ger-*
manicum: *Sinus Persicus*: *Mare Atlanticum*, of the hill Atlas
in the west part of Africke: or of the finder out: as *Fretum*
Magelanicum, or of some other accident, as the Red sea:
because the sand is red: *Mare Mediterraneum*: because it
runneth betweene the landes of Europe, and Africke:
Mare Icarium, because Icarus was drowned there, or the
like. There be some few seas which haue no entercourse
with the OCEAN, as *Mare mortuum*, neare Palestina,
Mare Caspium, *sive Hircanum*, not farre from Armenia, and
such a one is said to be in the North part of America.

The Straites, or narrow seas, are noated in the Latine,
by the name of *Fretum*: as *Fretum Britannicum*, the Eng-
lish narrowe seas, *Fretum Herculeum*, the straights be-
tweene Barbarie and Spaine, *Fretum Magelanicum*. &c.

The earth, is either Ilandes, which are those which are
wholly compassed by the sea, as *Britannia*, *Sicilia*, *Corfica*,
or the continent: which is called in the English, the firme
land,

De Hispania.

land, in the Latine *Continens*.

The olde knowne firme land, was conteined onely in Asia, Europe, and Africa. Europe is deuided from Africa by the *Mediterran. Sea*: from Asia by the tiuer Tanais, whereby appeareth that the North-partes of Asia, and Europe in olde time were but little knowne, and discovered.

Africa, is deuided from Europe by the *Mediterran*, from Asia, by the riuer Nilus: and so Asia, by Tanais: and Nilus, is seuered from Europe, and Afrike.

De Hispania.

TO say nothing of England, and Ireland, the most westerne countrie of Europe is Spaine: which is bounded on the South with the *Mediterran*. on the West, with the *Atlanticke*: on the North, with the *Oceanus Cantabricus*, or the Spanish seas: on the East, with France, fro which it is seuered with certaine mountaines, called *Montes Perenei*, or the Perenei hills.

In this countrie heretofore, there were many kingdomes, as the kingdome of Portingale toward the West: the kingdome of Granado toward the South: the kingdome of Nauarre and Arragon towarde the East: and the kiugdome of Castile in the middle of the land: but the whole dominion is now vnder the king of Spaine.

De Gallia.

THe next countrie is Fraunce: which is bounded on the West with the Perenie hills: on the North, with the English seas: on the East with Germanie: on the South
cast,

De Gallia.

east, with the Alpe-hilles on the South-west, with the *Mediterranean* sea.

This was in auncient time deuided into three partes: *Aquitanea* which was toward the West: *Celtica* toward the North, & West: & *Belgica* which is toward the North. *Belgica* is sometimes called *Gallia inferior*, and sometime *Germania inferior*: but we call it commonly by the name of the Lowe countries: the gouernement whereof at this day, is not at all vnder France: but *Gallia*, *Celtica*, and *Aquitanea* are vnder the French king.

Fraunce hath many petie gouernements that doe border vpon it: as the Duke of Sauoie, the State of the Switzers, the Dukedome of Lauraine, the Burgundians, or Wallons: against all which, the King is forced to keepe his frontier townes.

There is nothing more famous in this kingdome then the Salike lawe: whereby it is provided, that no woman, nor the heire of her, as in her right, shall enioy the crowne of France: but it goeth alwayes to the heire male.

The Switzers are a people called in olde time *Heluety*, who haue no Noblemen, or Gentlemen among them but onely the citizens of their townes: the yearely officers whereof, and their counsell, doe gouerne their State.

De Germania.

The next countrie vnto Fraunce on the East-side, is *Germanie*, which is bounded on the West, with Fraunce, and the Lowe-countries: on the North, with Denmarke, and the Danish seas: on the East, with Prussia, Polonia, and Hungarie: on the South-east, with *Istria*, and *Illyria*: on the South, with the Alpe-hilles, and with Italy.

De Germania.

The gouernour generall of this countie, is called the Emperour of Germanie; who is chosen by three spirituall princes, the Archbishop of Cullen, called *Coloniensis*: the Archbishop of Mentz, called *Moguntinus*: and the Archbishop of Triers, called *Treuerensis*: and three temporall princes: the Duke of Saxonie: the Marques of Brandenburg: and the Countie Palatine of Rine: which if they cannot agree, as to make a *Major* parte in their election: then the king of Boheme hath also a voyce: whereof it commeth to be said, that there be seuen Princes, electors of the Empire.

There is not that free libertie of choosing the Emperour out of any countie, as was heretofore. But the election is tied within one hundred yeares, vnto the house of Austria, and at this day of them, the king of Boheme is Emperour, who is called Rodolphus 2.

Bohemia is a kingdome in the middle of Germanie, which is compassed rounde with a mightie wood, called *Silua Hercinia*: The chiefe citie thereof is called Prague.

In Germanie all are at a kinde of commaundement of the Emperour: but most of the Princes otherwise, take on them as absolute gouernours in their dominions. So that they haue libertie of religion, they do make lawes, they doe raise souldiers, they doe stampe money with their owne coyne as absolute princes. So doth the Duke of Saxonie, the Archbishop, and the rest.

There are also tree States and cities, which haue the same authoritie, as Argentine, Frankford, and other.

De Italia.

ON the South-side of the Alpes, and Germanie: lyeth Italie, stretching it selfe out in length towards the

De Italia.

the South, and East. It hath on the South-side, the Iland Sicilia: on the East, that part of the *Med.* which is called *Mare Adriaticum*; or *Mare superum*; which seuereth Italy from Græcia: on the West-side that parte of the *Med.* which is called *Mare Tyrrhanum*, or *Mare inferum*: and by some, *Mare Ligusticum*.

This countrie for the figure thereof, is by some likened vnto a long leafe of a tree: it hath in the middle of it which goeth all in length, a mightie mountaine, named *Almus Apenninus*, which is likened vnto the *Spina*, or ridge-bone of the backe. Out of this hill springeth diuers rivers which runne on both sides of it, into the *Adriatike*, and *Tyrrhene*, or *Tuscan* Seas.

The North parte of this Italy, is that which in auntient time was called *Gallia Comata*, or *Gallia Cisalpina*, inhabited then by the French-men. It is now called *Longobardia*, or *Lombardie*: wherein stand many rich gouernemets: as the Duke dome of Millaine, of Mantua, of Florence, and others. It is for the pleasantnes thereof, in respect of the soyle, ayre, waters, and great varietie of wines, and fruites: likened now by some, to Paradise, or the garden of God.

In this Italie, which was heretofore one iure gouernement in the flourishing estate of the Romanes, are now many absolute States, and pryncedomes, by the great policie of the Bishop of Rome: who thought it the best way to make himselfe great, to weaken the Empeire. So he hath not onely driuen the Emperour out of all Italie into Germanie: but hath diminished his Maiestie in both: by making so many petie gouernemets, which hold themselves soueraigne rulers, without relation to any other.

As there are many Sates in Italy, so one of the chiefeft are the Venerians, called *Resp. Venetorum*, or the State of Venice: becaue they are not gouerned by any one: but by their Senate, and gentlemen, although they haue a

De Italia.

Duke, with whose stampe their money is coyned, and in whose name all their executions of Iustice are done. But this Duke is euery way limited by the State.

This Citie of Venice standeth in an *Estuarium*, or shallowe of earth in the North parte of the *Adriatique* sea, so safely, that it is helde inuincible. There is in it but one streete of firme land: into the other the sea doeth flowe at euery tide. They haue bene a great and rich State; not onely possessing much in Italy, as Padua their vniuersitie, and other things which now they doe: but a great part of Illyricum and many rich Ilands in the *Mech*, as Candy, called commonly Creta, Cyprus, Zazinthus, and others.

1 The impouerishing of their state, hath partly beene by the encroching of the Turke; but especially, by the decaying of that trafique which they had to Alexandria in Aegypt for their spices, and other riches of Persia, Arabia, and the East Indies. Since, the course of the Portugales to those Easterne countries hath bene by sea, by the backside of Africa.

2 Here standeth the City of Florence, a renowned Citie of Lumbardy, which is gouerned by a Duke, an absolute Prince. This Dukedome is in the family of the *Medicis*, from whome came Katherine *de Medicis*; the wife of Henry the 2. King of Fraunce, lately so well knowen by the name of Queene mother.

3 In this Lumbardy, standeth also the Dukedome of Milaine, a most rich and pleasant thing, which sometime had beene gouerned by a Duke of their owne: but of late hath bene possessed by the Spaniard, and sometime by the French, and is now in the government and possession of the King of Spaine.

4 A good parte of Italy is vnder the Bishoppe of Rome, which is commonly called the land of the Church; where the Pope is a prince absolute: not onely spirituall as elsewhere

where he claimeth: but also temporall making lawes, requiring tribute, raising souldiers, and executing iustice as a Monarche.

In the South parte of Italic lieth the kingdome of Naples, which is a coutry very rich, and full of al kind of pleasure, abundant in nobilitie; whereof commeth to bee said that proverbe: Naples for nobilitie, Rome for religion, Millaine for beautie, Florence for pollicie, and Venice for riches.

This was heretofore ruled by a King of their owne, till the time of Ioane Queene of Naples, who by deed of gift, did first graunt that kingdome to the Kings of Aragon in Spaine: and afterward by will, with a reuocation of the former graunt: did bequeath it to the house of Anioy in Fraunce. Since which time, the kingdome of Naples hath sometimes beene in the hands of the Spaniard, sometimes possessed by the French, and is nowe vnder the King of Spaine, vnto this is annexed also the Dukedome of Calabria.

There be moreover in Italy, many other prince-domes & States, as the Dukedome of Ferrara: the Dukedome of Mantua: the Dukedome of Urbine: the Dukedome of Parma, and Placentia: the State of Luca: the State of Genua, commonly called the Genowaies, which are gouerned by their Senate: but haue a Duke as they haue at Venice. There bee also some other, by which meanes, the glory and strength of Italy is decayed.

De Dania, Suezia, & Noruegia.

As Italy lieth on the Southside of Germany, so Denmarke lieth on the North, into the middle of which land, the sea breaketh in by a place called the Sound. The Imposte of which passage bringeth great riches, as an ordinarie tribute vnto the King of Denmarke: this is a kingdome

De Dania, Sueſia, & Noruegia.

dome and ruled by an absolute gouernour.

On the North and Eaſt ſide of Denmarke, lieth Sueſia, commonly called Sweden or Swethen: which is alſo a kingdome of it ſelfe. Where the King profeſſeth himſelfe to be *Rex Suecorum, Gothorum & Vandalorum*. Whereby we may know that the Gothes and Vandales which in times paſt did waite Italy, and other Nations of Chriſtendome, did come out of this country.

On the North ſide and weſt of Sweden, lieth Noruegia or Norway, which is at this day vnder the gouernment of the King of Denmarke, although heretofore it hath bin a free kingdome of it ſelfe.

Within the Sounde, on the Eaſt parte of the ſea, lieth Danzick: where are three townes of the Hauſesmen it confederates, and alies vnto the King of Denmarke.

There is no greate thing to bee noted in theſe countries: but that from Denmarke cometh much come to the ſupply of other parts of Chriſtendome: and that fro all theſe countries, is brought great furniture for warre, or for ſhipping. As maſts, cables, ſteele, ſaddles, armour, gunpowder, and the like. And that in the ſea adioyning to theſe partes, there are fiſhes of much more monſtrous ſhape, then elſe where are to be found: the people of theſe countries are by their profeſſion, Lutherans for religion.

De Ruſſia, ſine Muſcouia.

ON the Eaſt ſide of Sweden beginneth the dominion of the Emperor of Ruſſia, although Ruſſia, or Muſcouia it ſelfe, doe lie ſomewhat more into the Eaſt: which is a great and mightie Monarchie: extending it ſelfe euen from Lapland, & Finmarke, many 1000. miles in length vnto the *Caspian ſea*: ſo that it containeth in it a great part of Europ, and much of Aſia alſo.

The

De Russia, siue Muscopia.

The gouernour there, calleth himselfe Emperour of Russia, great Duke of Muscouia, with many other titles of Princesdomes, and Citties, whose dominion was very much enlarged by the Emperour not long since dead: whome in Russia, they cal Iuan Vasiluwich, in the Latine *Iohannes Basilides*: who raigning long, and being fortunate in warre, did very much enlarge this mightie dominion.

The people of this countrie are rude, and vnlearned, very superstitious, a kinde of Christians: but rather following the Greeke church. Their buildings is most of wood, euen in their chiefe City of Musco: insomuch, that the Tartars wholly in the Northeast of them, breaking oft into their countries, euen vnto the very Musco: doe set fire on their Citties, which by reason of their wooden buildings, are quickly destroyed.

The passage by sea into this country, which was wont to bee through the Sound, and so after ward by land: was first discovered by the English: who with great danger of the frozen seas, did first aduenture to saile so far North, as to compasse Lapland, Finmarke, Sripheinia, and Biarmia: and so passing to the East by Noua Zembla, halfe the way almost to Cathaio, haue entred the riuer called Ob: by which they disperse themselves for marchandize both by water and land, into the most parts of the dominion of the Emperour.

This Empire is at this day, one of the greatest dominions in the world: both for compasse of ground, and for multitude of men: sauing that it lieth far North, & so yeeldeth not pleasure or good trafique, with many other of the best nations.

De Prussia, & Polonia.

IN Europe, on the East and North corner of Germany, lieth a country called Prussia, in Latin, most times Borussia

De Prussia, & Polonia.

russia, in English Pruthen, or Sprusa: of whome, little is famous, saying that they be governed by one, in a kinde of order of religion; whome they call the Graund-maister, and that they are a meanes to keepe the Muscouite, and the Turke from some other partes of Christendome.

On the East-side of Germany, betweene Russia and Germany, lieth Polonia, or Poland, which is a kingdome, differing from other of Europe; because the King there, is chosen by election by some of the Princes neare adioyning, as was lately Henry the 3. King of France. These elections often times do make great factions there; so that in taking partes, they grow often there into ciuill warre.

The King of Polonia is almost continually in warre, either with the Muscouite, who lieth in the East & North-east of him: or with the Turke, who lieth on the South & South-east: and sometimes also with the Princes of Germany; whereupon, the Poles doe commonly desire to chuse warriors to their King.

In this country are none but Christians: but so, that libertie of all religions is permitted, in somuch, that there be Papists, Colledges of Iesuites, both of Lutherans, and Caluinists opinions: Anabaptists; Arrians, and diuers others. This is that countrie, which in times past was called Salmatia, the chiefe citty whereof is named Craconia.

De Hungaria, & Austria.

On the South-side of Germany lyeth Hungary, called in the Lattin *Pannonia*, which hath bene heretofore deuided into *Pannonia superior*: and *Pannonia inferior*: it is an absolute kingdome, and hath heretofore bene rich and populous. The Christians that do liue there, haue among them diuers sorts of religions in Poland. The kingdome

De Hungaria, & Austria.

kingdome hath bene a great obstacle against the Turkes comming into Christendome: but especially in the time of Iohannes Huniades, who did mightily with many great victories repulse the Turke. Here standeth *Buda*, which was heretofore a great forresse of Christendome. But the glory of this kingdome is almost vterly decayed, by reason that the Turke, who partly by policy & partly by force, doth now possesse the greatest part of it. So that the people are fled from thence, and the Christians which remaine there, are in miserable seruitude: Notwithstanding, some part of *Pannonia superior* doth yet belôg to Christendome.

That corner of Germanie which lieth neereſt to Hungarie, is called *Austria*, which is an Archdukedome. From which house are come many of the Princes of Germany, and of other parts of Europe: so that the Crowne imperiall of Germanie, is now tied to some one of this house.

In this countrie standeth *Vienna* that noble ciuie, which is now the principall Bulwarke of all Christendome against the Turke: from whence Solimon was repelled by Ferdinandus King of Hungarie, in the time of the Emperour Charles the fift. It was in this cōuntrie, that Richard the first King of *England*, in his returne from the holy land, was taken prisoner by the Archduke of *Austria*, and so put to a grieuous raunsome. The Archduke that now is, by the King of Spaine, is appointed in the place of the Duke of Parma, as gouernour of the low countries. Through both *Austria* and *Hungarie*, doth runne the mightie riuer *Danubius*, as through *Germany*, doth runne the *Rheine*, whereon groweth *Vinum Rhenanum*, cōmonly called Rhenish wine.

De Græcia.

ON the South side of *Hungary*, and Southeaſt, lieth a countrie of Europe: called in old time *Dacia*, which is large & wide, comprehending in it *Transylvania*, *Walachia*, *Moldania*, and *Servia*. Of which litle is famous, ſaue
that

De Grecia.

that the men are warlike, and can hardly be brought to obedience. They haue lately bin vnder the King of Hungarie. The River *Danubius* doth diuide this *Dacia* from *Mysia*, commonly called *Bulgaria*, which lieth on the South from *Danubius*, and is seuered from *Grecia* by the mountaine *Hemus*.

From *Hemus* towards the South lieth *Grecia*, bounded on the West by the Adriatike sea: on the East, by the Thrasian sea, and *Mare agæum*: on the South, by the maine *Mediteran* sea. This contened in oldtime foure especiall parts: *Peloponnesus*, *Achaia*, *Macedonia*, and *Epyrus*.

Peloponnesus, which is now called *Morea*, is the South part of *Grecia*, being *Paninsula*, or almost an Iland: for that it is ioyned by a little straight called *Istmos*, vnto the rest of *Grecia*. Herein stood *Sparta*, and the auncient state of *Lacedemon*. On the *Istmos* or straight, stood the famous citie of *Corinth*, which was in old time called the key of *Greece*.

On the West side of *Grecia*, next to *Peloponnesus*, stood the kingdome of *Macedonia*: so famous vnder Philip for conquering of all *Grecia*: and vnder Alexander, for vanquishing almost all the Esterne world: and for taking of the Monarchie from the Persians: and remouing it to the Macedonians.

On the Northside of *Macedonia* being the Northwest from *Grecia*, stood the little kingdome of *Epirus*: where raigned Scanderberg, which was in his time so great a scourge to the Turke.

The rest of *Grecia* was called *Achaia*, hauing on the North and East part thereof *Thrasia*: on the North *Hemus* the hill. On the West *Macedonia* and *Epirus*, on the South *Peloponnesus*, on the East, those seas which diuide *Asia* the lesse, from *Grecia*. In this part stood *Thessalonica*, to the which,

De Græcia.

which, S. Paule wrote his Epistle; and *Athens*, and *Thebes*, and all the cities of Boetia, and the cities of the *Achai*, *Argos*, *Elis*, and many other.

Macedonia is by the best Writers, and by auncient description, rather found to stand on the North side of *Achaia*, neere to the hill *Hemus*, and to *Thracia*, though some in ignorance haue taught the contrarie.

In this countrie of *Grecia*, were in auncient time many Kingdomes and States. As at this day there are in *Italy*: as the *Macedonians*, the Kingdome of *Epirus*, the State of *Athens*, the gouernment of *Sparta*, the citie of *Thebes*, and very many other places: in so much that almost euery towne had a peculiar gouernment. But now it all is vnder one Monarchie.

From *Grecia* in olde time, did almost all famous things come. These were they that made the warre against *Troy*. That resisted *Xerxes* the mightie King of *Persia*. That had the famous Law-makers: as *Solon* in *Athens*, and *Licurgus* in *Lacedemon*. That tooke away the Monarchie from the *Persians*. That brought forth the famous Captaines: as *Themistocles*, *Miltiades*, *Alexander*, and many other that were the authors of ciuilitie vnto the Westerne nations: and to some in the East: as *Asia* the lesse, that gaue to *Italy* and to the *Romaines* the first light of learning: because from them arose the first Poets: as *Homer*, *Hesiodus*, *Sophocles*, and diuers others. The great Philosophers, *Socrates*, *Plato*, *Aristotle*, and all the Sects of the *Academicks*, *Stoicks*, *Peripateticks*, *Epicureans*, and almost all their schollers. The great Oratours *Demosthenes*, and *Eschines*, and in one word (the *Mathematiks* excepted, which came rather from the *Caldeans*, and the *Egyptians*) the whole floure of Artes and good learning.

On the Northeast part of *Grecia*, standeth *Thracia*,
which

De Græcia.

which though heretofore it hath bin distinguished, yet now it is accompted as the chiefe part of *Greece*. Heere on the edge of the sea-coast very neere vnto *Asia*, standeth the citie called *Bizantium*: but since *Constantinople*: because *Constantine* the great did new build it, and made it an imperiall citie. This was the chiefe residence of the Emperour of *Græcia*, sometimes called new *Rome*: and the glorie of the East: where the generall Counsell was once assembled: and one of the Seas of the Patriarks: who was called the Patriarke of *Constantinople*. But by the great discord of the Christians: all *Græcia*, and this Citie is fallen into the hands of the Turks: who now maketh it his place of imperiall abode. It was wonne in the time of *Constantine* the last Emperour: so that by *Constantine*, it obtained his honor, and by *Constantine* it lost it. In this Citie, lieth resident with the Turke an Embassador, or Agent for the Queene of England. The Christians that do liue now in *Græcia*, are in miserable seruitude vnto the Turke. They disagree in many things from the doctrine of the Church of Rome.

De Mari inter Europam, & Asia interiacente.

IT is said before, that on the North part betweene *Asia* and *Europe*, the riuier *Tanaïs* doth runne as a bound of them both.

This riuier runneth into a Lake called *Meotis palus*, which bordereth on the confines of *Scythia*, or *Tartaria*.

This *Meotis* doth disburden it selfe into a wide sea, called *Pontus Euxinus*.

De Mare inter Europam &c.

At the mouth of this sea, is a very great straight, known by the name of *Thracius Bosphorus*, where the breadth of the sea is not above one myle, seuering Asia and Europe. On the side of Europe standeth Constantinople: on the side of Asia, a City called Pera, which for the nearenesse is by some reckned a part of Constantinople. From this straight, the sea openeth it selfe more large to the South and is called by the name of *Propontis*. But then it groweth againe into another straight, which they write to be in the breadth about two miles. This is called *Hellestinus*, hauing on the one side Abidus in Asia, and on the other side Cefus, on the side of Europe.

This is that place, where Zerxes the great King of Persia did make his bridge ouer the sea, so much renowned in ancient histories, which was not impossible, by reason of the narrownesse, the foundation of his bridge being rested on ships. Here also may appeare the reason of that story of Leander and Hero: which Leander, is reported for the loue of her, to haue often times swoon ouer the sea, till at last he was drowned.

From this strait Southward, the sea groweth more wide, and is called afterwards by the name of *Mare agium*, and so descendeth vnto the full *Mediterran*.

De Asia, & primo de Tartaria.

On the North side of Asia, ioyning vnto the dominion of the Emperour of Russia: is Tartaria, in ancient time called Scythia: the bounds whereof did then extend themselves into a good parte of Europe, and thereof was called Scythia Europaea; but the greatest parte of it both in Asia: A mightie large country, extending it selfe from the North to the vtermost sea. On the East,

De Asia, & primo de Tartaria.

to the dominion of the greare *Chan*, or Prince of *Cathai*, on the South, downe to the *Mare Caspium*.

The Tartarians which nowe inhabit it, are men of great stature, rude of behauiour, no Christians, but Gentiles: neither do they acknowledge Mahomet. They haue few or no Cities amongst them, but after the manner of the olde Scythians, doe liue in wildernesses: lying vnder their Cartes, and following their droaues of Cattell, by the milke whereof they doe nourish themselves. They sowe no Corne at all, because they abide not long in any one place: but taking their direction from the North-pole-starre, they remooue from one coast of their country vnto another.

The country is populous, and the men are great warriors: fighting alwaies on horsebacke with their bow and arrowes, and a short sword. They haue among them infinit store of horses: whereof they sel many vnto the countries adioyning. Their ordinary soode in their warres, is horseflesh, which they vse to eat rawe, being chased a litle by hanging at their saddle.

They haue great warres, with the countries adioyning: but especially with the Muscouite, and sometimes with the Turke. From hence came Tamberlane, who brought 7. hundreth thousands of the Tartarians at once into the felde: wherein he distressed and rooke prisoner, Baiacer, the great Turke: whome he afterwards forced to feede as a dogge vnder his table. They haue nowe among them, many princes and gouernours, as those haue ont, whome they call the *Crim Tartars*: and those haue another, which are the Tartars of *Nagais*, and so diuers other.

The English haue laboured to their great expences, to finde out the way by the North Seas of *Tartaria*, to goe into *Cathai*, and *China*. But by reason of the frozen Seas,

they

De Cathio, & China.

they haue not yet preuailed. Although it be now reported, that the Flemmings haue discovered that passage: which is like to be to the great benefite of the Northerne partes of Christendome.

De Cathaio, & China.

NExt beyond *Tartaria* on the North-east part of Asia, lyeth a great country called Cathaie, or Cathaia: the boundes whereof extend themselves on the North, and East, to the vttermost seas: and on the South, to China. The people are not much learned, but more ciuill then the Tartars, and haue good and ordinary trafique with the countries adioyning. This country hath in it many Kings, which are tributaries, and doe owe obedience vnto one, whome they call the great Cham, or Cane of *Cathaie*: who is the chiefe gouernour of all the land: and esteemed for multitude of people, and largenesse of Dominion, to be one of the great Princes of the worlde: but his name is the lesse famous: for that he lieth so far distant from the best nations: and the passage vnto his country is so daungerous, either for the perils of the seas, or for the long space by land: his cheife imperiall city is called *Cambalu*.

On the South-side of *Cathaie*, and East-part of Asia: next to the sea lyeth *China*. The people whereof, *Oforius* describeth by the name of *Sine*: and calleth their country *Sinarum regio*. This is a fruitfull country, and yeeldeth great store of rich commodities, as almost any country in the worlde. It containeth in it very many seuerall kingdoms, which are absolute Princes in their States. The cheife city in this country is called *Quinsay*, and is described to be of incredible greatnesse.

De Cathaio & China.

as were wont to bee in the auntient Cities in the East: as Babylon, Niniue, and other. This country was first discovered by the late nauigation of the Portugals into the East Indies.

The people of China are learned almost in all Arts, very skilfull workemen in curious fine works of all sorts: so that no country yeeldeth more precious marchandize then the workmanship of them.

They are great souldiers, very politique and crafty, and in respect thereof, contemning the wits of other: vsinga Proverbe, that all other Nations doe see but with one eie: but that themselves haue two.

Petrus Mathaeus historiographer to the King of Spaine for the Easterne Indies, doeth reporte of them: that they haue had from very auntient time among them: these two things, which wee holde to bee the miracles of Christendome, and but lately inuented. The one is the vse of gūns for their warres, and the other is printing: which they vse not as we do, writing from the left hand vnto the right: or as the Hebrewes, and Sirians: from the right hand vnto the left: but downeward directly: and so their lines at the top, to begin againe.

De India orientali.

ON the South-side of China, toward the Molucco Islands, and the Indian sea, lyeth the great country of India: extending it selfe from the Southeast parte of the continent, by the space of many thousand miles westward vnto the riuer Indus, which is the greatest riuer in all that country, except Ganges: one of the greatest riuers in the world, which lieth in the East part of the same Indies. This is that country, so famous in ancient time for the great riches therof, for the multitude of people, for the conquest of
Bac-

De India orientali.

thus ouer it, for the passage thither of Alexander the great through all the length of Asia: for his aduenturing to goe into the South Ocean with so mightie a Nauie, which few or none had euer attempted before him.

This countrie had in auncient time, many absolute kingdomes, and princes: as in the time of Alexander, Porus, Taxiles, and diuers others. In it were many Philosophers, and men of great learning: whome they called *Gymnosophists*, of whome was Calanus, who burnt himselfe afore Alexander. The men of the South-parte of India are blacke, and thereof are called men of Inde. The cattle of all sortes that are bred there, are of incredible bignes, in respect of other countries: as their Elephants, Apes, Munkies, Emates, and other.

The riches hereof hath bene very great with abundance of golde: insomuch, that the Promontorie, which is now called Malacha, was in times past named *Aurea Chersonesis*. The commoditie of spice is exceeding great that commeth from thence. The Portingales were the first, which by their long nauigations beyond the *Equinoxiall*, and the farthermost parte of Africa, haue of late yeares discovered these countries of Christendome. As heretofore of the King of Portingale: so now of the King of Spaine, who is reputed owner of them.

The Portingales did finde diuers small kingdomes at their first arriual in those parts, as the king of Calicut, from whence commeth our calicut linnen: the K. of Cambaior, the king of Cananor, the king of Cocumum, & very many other; with whome, they first entring league for trafique, and hauing leaue giuen to build castles for their defence, they haue since by policie, encroched into their handes a great parte of the countrie which lyeth neare to the Seacoast, and are mightie now, for the space of many thousand miles together. The king of Spaine hath there a vice-

De Persia.

roye : whose residence, is commonly in the Imperiall citie called Goa. They doe every yeare, send home great store of rich commodities into Spaine.

The people of the countrie when the Portingales came first thither, were for the most part Gentiles : belieuing no one God. But the Saracens, who reuerence the Prophet *Mahomet*, from the baies, or gulfes of Persia, and Arabia, did trisique much thither : so that *Mahomet* was knowne among them. But in one towne called Cranganor, they founde diuers Christians, dissenting in many thinges from the Church of Rome, and rather agreeing with the Protestants : which Christians had retained by successe their religion, from the time of Thomas the Apottle: by whome it is recorded by the auntient Ecclesiastical history, part of India was conuerted.

De Persia.

There be diuers countries betweene *India* and *Persia* : but they are not famous. *Persia* is a large countrie, which lyeth farre West from *India*, it hath on the North *Assiria*, and *Media* : on the West, *Syria*, and the *Holy land* : but next vnto it *Mesopotamia* : on the South, the maine Ocean, which entereth in notwithstanding, by a baye called *Sinus Persicus*.

This is that countrie, which in auncient time was so renowned for the great riches and Empire thereof. These were they, who tooke from the *Assirians* the Monarchie, and did set vp in their countrie, the second great Empire : which began vnder Cirus : and continued vnto Darius : who was ouerthrowne by Alexander the gear. In this countrie raigned the great Kings : Cyrus, Cambises, Darius the son of Hystaspes, the great Zirxes, Atarxerxes, and many other : which in prophane writings, are famous
for

De Persia.

for their warres against the *Scythians*, *Egyptians*, and *Gracians*, & in the Scripture: for the deliuey of the Iewes from Babylon by Cyrus; for building of the second Temple at Ierusalem: and for many thinges which are mentioned of them in the Prophetic of Daniel.

The people of this nation, although they were in former times very riotous, by reason of their great wealth: yet after that they lost their Monerchie by the *Macedonians*, they haue growne great souldiers: and therefore, as they euer did strongly defend themselves against the olde Romaines: So in the time of Constantine, and the other Emperours, they were fearful neighbours to the Romaine gouernement. And of late time, they haue strongly opposed themselves against the Turkes, euer making partie good with them. They fight commonly on horse-backe, and are gouerned as in times past, by a King: so now, by an absolute ruler and mightie Prince: whome they rearme the Shawe, or Sophie of Persia. He hath many countries, and small Kinges in Assiria, and Media, and the countries adioyning tributaries.

The Persians are all at this day Saracens in religion, beleeuing on Mahomet: but as Papistes and Protestants doe differ in opinion, concerning the same Christ: so doe the Turkes, and Persians about their *Mahomet*: the one pursuing the other as heretickes with most deadly hatred. In somuuh, that there be in this respect, almost continuall warres betweene the Turkes, and the Persians.

De Parthia, & Media.

ON the North-east side of *Persia*, lyeth that countrie, which in old time was called *Parthia*. But now named *Arach*, of whome those great warres with the Medians, or Armenians, or Romaines, in Tacitus, and auncient histories are true. The countrie boundeth on Media by

De Parthia & Media.

the West, which was in auncient time very full of people, whose fight as it is very much on horsebacke, so the manner of them continually, was for to giue an onset, and then to run their waies : but to returne againe like to the wilde Irish, so that no man was sure when hee had obtained any victory ouer them.

These were the people, that gaue the great ouerthrow to that rich *Martus Crassus* of Rome, who by reason of his couetousnesse, intending more to his getting of gold, then to the guiding of his armie, was slaine himselfe, and many thousands of the Romaines. The Parthians with exprobation of his thirst after mony, powring moulten gold into his mouth after he was dead. Against these, the great Lucullus fought many battailes : but the Romaines were neuer able to bring them quite in subiection.

On the west-side of Parthia, hauing the *Mare Caspium* on the North, Armenia on the West, and Persia on the South. Here lieth that country which in times past was called Media, but now Shiruan, or Seruan : which is at this day, gouerned by many inferiour Kings and Princes which are tributaries, and doe owe subiection to the Sophy of Persia. So that hee is the soueraigne Lorde of all Media, as our Englishmen haue founde : who passing through the dominion of the Emperour of Russia, haue crossed the *Mare Caspium*, and merchandised with the inhabitants of this Media.

This Nation in former time was very famous : for the Medes were they that remoued the Empire from the Assyrians, vnto them : which as in themselues it was not great. So when by Cyrus it was ioyned by the Persians, it was very mighty, and called by the name of the Empire of the Medes and Persians. Heere it was, that Astiages reigned, the grandfather of Cyrus, and Darius of the Medes : the chiefe City of this kingdome, was called Erbatana, as the chiefe city of Persia, was Babilon.

On

De Armenia & Assiria.

ON the westside of the *Mare Caspium*, and of *Media*, lieth a country called by a generall name Armenia, which is by some distinctly deuided into three partes: the North part whereof being but little, is called *Georgia*: the middle part *Turcomania*: and the third part, by the proper name of Armenia: by which a man may see the reason of difference in diuers writers. Some saying that the country whence the Turks first came, was Armenia: some saying *Turcomania*: and some *Georgia*: the trueth being, that out of one, or all these countries they did descend. These Turks are supposed to be the issue of them: whome Alexander the great did shutte vp within certaine mountaines neare to the *Mare Caspium*.

There is this one thing memorable in Armenia: that after the great flood, the arke of Noy did rest it selfe on the mountaines of Armenia: whereas Iosephus witnesseth, it is to bee seene yet to this day. The hills whereon it resteth are called by some *Noe montes*. The people of this Nation haue retained among them the Christian faith, as it is thought, from the time of the Apostles: but at this day it is spotted with many absurdities.

On the South parte of Armenia bending toward the east, lieth the countrie of Assiria, which is bounded on the west with Mesopotamia. This country was that land, wherein the first Monarchy was settled, which began vnder *Ninus*, which the scripture calleth *Nimrod*: liuing not long after Noies flood. And it ended in Sardanapalus: continuing for the space of a thousand & three hundred yeares, The King of this country was Senacharib, of whome we read in the booke of Kings: and here raigned Nabuchadneffer, who took Ierusalem, and led the Iewes away prisoners vnto Babilon.

In this country, is the swift riuer Tigris, neare vnto the which, was Paradise: vpon this riuer stood the great city Niniue,

De Chaldea.

Niniue, called by prophane writers Ninus: which was almost of incredible bignesse, and exceeding populous: but the nearenesse of the riuer and meruailous fruitfulnessse of the soile, which as Herodatus writeth: did returne their Corne sometimes two, sometimes three hundered folde, & did yeelde sufficiency for to maintaine it. This citty for a long time was the imperiall seat of the Monarchy: but being destroyed, as God foretold it shoulde by the Chaldeans: the residence of the King, was afterwards remoued vnto Babylon, a greate citty in Chaldea, first built by Semiramis.

De Chaldea.

Next vnto Assiria, lieth Chaldea: hauing on the eastside Assiria, on the west Siria or palestina: on the North Armenia: on the South the desert of Arabia. This country is often called by the name of Mesopotamia, which name it hath, because it lieth in the middle of two great riuers, Tigris, and Euphrates: it is called also by the name of *Babilonia*, which word of it selfe properly taken, doth signifie onely that part of the country which standeth about Babylon.

The chiefe Citty hereof was Babylon, the ruines whereof doe remaine to this day. It was a rich and most pleasant Citty for all kinde of delight: and was the imperiall Citty of the Assirians: where Nabuchadnezzar, and other their great Kings did lye. It was to this citty, that the children of Israell were carried captiues: which thereof was called the captiuity of Babilon. The Kings of Persia did also keep their residēce here: it was built vpon the riuer Euphrates, some part of it standeth on the one side, and some part on the other: hauing for his foundresse, Semiramis, the wife of Ninus.

De Asia minori.

It is supposed by Deuines, that in this Mesopotamia betweene the riuer Tygris; and Euphrates, Paradise did stand: this was the country wherein Abraham the patri- arke was borne: vnto the which the Romaines could very hardly extend their dominion: For they had much to doe, to get any such gouernment of any thing beyond the ry- uer Euphrates. Fro this people, it is thought that the wise men came which brought presents vnto Christ, by the guiding of the starre.

For as in India and all the Eastern parts: so especially in this country, their Noble men and Priestes, and very ma- ny people, doe giue themselues to all Arts of diuination: Here were the great Southsayers, Enchaunters, and wise- men, as they call them: here weere the first Astrologians, which are so described and derided in the Scripture: and against the inhabitants of Babylon and Chaldea, were the lawes of the Romaines made against deuining Mathema- ticians: whoe in *Tullie de Diuinatione*, & *Cornelius Tacitus*: As also in the lawes of the Emperours, are ordinarily cal- led by the name of Chaldeans: and in deede, from these, and from the Egyptians, is supposed to haue sprung the first knowledge of Astronomy.

De Asia minori.

ON the North-west side of *Mesopotamia*, lyeth that countrie which is now called *Natolia*: but in times past *Asia minor* hauing on the North-side *Pontus Euxinus*, on the West, the *Hellepont*, and on the South, the maine *Mare Mediterraneum*. In the auncient writers, both of Gracians, and of the Romaines, this is oftentimes called by the single name of *Asia*, because it was best knowne vnto them, and they were not so much acquainted with the farther places of *Asia* the great.

This

De Asia minori

This countie in generall, for the fruitfulness of the land standing in so temperate a clymate, and for the conueniencie of the Sea euery way, & so many good hauens: hath bene reputed alwayes a very commodious, and pleasurefull countie. It is wholly at this day vnder the Turke. The mountaine Taurus goeth along from the West, vnto the East parte of it.

The greatnes of it is such, that it hath comprehended many kingdomes and great prouinces, beside Cities of great fame. Of the South-east part thereof, neare to Palestina, lyeth Cilicia: the chiefe citie thereof is Tharsus: the countie of Saint Paul: the place whither Salomon sent for great store of his gold, and ptouision for the Temple, whither Ionas also fled, when he should haue gone to Ninue. In the streites of this Cilicia, neere to the mountaine Taurus, did Alexander giue the great ouerthrowe in person to Darius, in the ioyning of their first battaile.

Westward from Cilicia, lyeth the prouince called Pamphilia: wherein standeth the citie Seleucia, built by Seleucus: one of the foure great successors of Alexander the great.

On the West of this Pamphilia, extending it selfe euen to the sea, is Lidia: where raigned sometimes Cræsus, who was so renowned for his abundant riches. Herein standeth as a sea-towne, Halicarnassus the countie of Herodatus, and of Dionisius, who wrote the Romaine historie: which citie was sometimes a kingdome, as in the time of Zerxes: to whose aide against the Grecians, did goe Artimisia, the Queene of Halicarnasse. And here taigned Ada, another Queene, in the time of Alexander the great.

Vpon the sea-coast North-ward from Lydia, standeth diuers of those cities, vnto the which, Iohn in his Revelation did write his 7. Epistles, as Smirna, Pergamua, Sardis, & Ephesus: but other of them, as Laodicia, Philodelphia, Thiatira,

De Asia minori.

Asia, doe stand more in the inland.

Sardis was a citie of great pleasure and profite: which is that place: the winning whereof by the *Greekes*, did so displease one of the kings of *Persia*: that he caused it every day at dinner to be remembered vnto him, that the *Grecians* had taken *Sardis*: and that he must not cease till he had recovered it againe.

Ephesus was one of the most famous citie of the world, the greatest glory whereof, did arise by reason of the most magnificent Temple of *Diana*, which was at *Ephesus*: to the building whereof, all *Asia* the lesse, did very bountifullie contribute.

It is reported to haue bene 200. yeares a building: and that seuen seuerall times, as otherwise: so especiallie by lightning, to haue bin set on fire: but the finall destruction of it, was by a base person named *Herostratus*: who of purpose set it on fire, to make himselfe famous.

More Northward toward the Sea-coast, lyeth *Phrigia*, which was the countrie from whence the goddesse called *Bona Dea*, or *Pessimuntia*, and *Cibile* was brought to *Rome*. In this countrie liued *Gordius*, who knie that knot that *Alexander* cut: hoping thereby to obtaine (as an oracle had foretolde) the whole kingdome of *Asia*. In this countrie stood *Troye*, the siege whereof, by the *Grecians* is made so famous by the poetrie of *Homer*, and of *Virgil*.

Yet Northwarde from *Phrigia*, lyeth the countrie of *Bithinia*, which was sometimes a kingdome: where *Prusias* reigned, that had so much to doe with the *Romaines*. In this countrie standeth the citie *Nicea*, where the first generell counsell was held against *Arrius* the hereticke, by *Constantine* the great: thereof called the *Nicens counsell*. Here standeth also *Chalcedon*, where the fourth generall counsell was held by the Emperor *Marianus*, against the

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the hereticke Nestorius.
From *Babylonia* East-ward, on the North-side of Asia the lesse, standeth the countie of *Paphlagonia*, where was the citie built by Pompey the great, called of his name *Pompeopolis*. Fro thence Eastward ioyning to Armenia: is the kingdome of *Capadocia*, which bordereth on Armenia. & Northward fro thence, neare to the sea called *Pontus Euxinus*, lyeth the kingdome of *Mithridates*: which was called *Pontus*. This *Mithridates* had long warres with the *Romaines*, whose subiects he caused to be slaine all in one night thoroughout Asia the lesse. He was afterward overthrowen by Pompey the great Romaine. By him was inuented that preseruatine against poison, which of his name is called *Mithridate*. There were also in Asia the lesse some other small countie, as *Galatia*, *Licia*, *Caria*, and some other.

De Siria, & Palestina.

Southward from *Cilicia*, and Asia the lesse, lieth *Siria*, Scalled *Palestina*, hauing on the East *Mesopotamia*, on the South *Arabia*, on the West *Tyre*, and *Sidon*, and the end of the *Medditeran* sea. The people of this *Siria*, were in times past called the *Aramites*. In their language is the translation of the New Testament, called the *Siriacke*.

In this cuntrey standeth *Antioch*, which was sometimes one of the famous Patriarcks sees, and is a Citie of reckoning vnto this day. Here also standeth now the Citie of *Aleppo*, which is a famous Mart towne for the Marchandizing of the *Persians*, and other of the East: and for the *Turkes*, and such countie as be adioyning. Here standeth also *Tripolis*.

The

De Siria, & Palestina.

The South part of Siria lying downe towards Egypt, and ~~Arabia~~ was the place where the children of Israel did dwell: being a countrey but of small quantitie, not in length two hundred Italian miles: yet was so fruitfull, flowing with milke and honnie (as the Scripture calleth it) that both it did maintaine aboue thirtie Kings and their people, before the coming of the children of Israel out of Egypt: and was sufficient afterward, to relieue the incredible number of the twelve tribes of Israel.

It was noted of this countrey, that whereas by the goodnes of the Climate wherein it stood, and the fertilitye of the soyle: but especially by the blessing of God, it was the most fruitfull land that was in the world. Now our Trauellers by experience, do finde the countrey in respect of the fruitfulnessse to be changed: God cursing the land, together with the Iewes, the inhabitants of it. It is obserued also for all the Easterne parts, that they are not so fertile, as they haue bin in former ages. The earth as it were growing olde, which is an argument of the dissolution to come, by the day of iudgement.

Through this countrey doth runne the riuer Jordan, which hath heretofore been famous for the fruitfulnessse of the trees standing thereupon, and for the mildnesse of the ayre, so that (as *Iosephus* writeth) when snowe hath layen in other places of the land, about the riuer it hath bin so calme, that men did goe in single thinne linnen garments.

In this countrey standeth the Lake called *Lacus Asphaltites*, because of a kinde of Slime, or *Bitumen*, which daily it doth cast vp: being of force to ioyne stones exceeding fast in building.

This Lake is it, which is called *Mare Mortuum*, a Sea, because it is salt and dead, for that no living thing

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thing is therein: the water whereof is so thicke, that fewe thinges will sinke therein: insomuch, that *Josephus* saith: that an Oxe hauing all his legges bound, yet will not sinke in that water.

The nature of this lake was turned into this qualitie: When God did destroy *Sodome*, and *Gomorrah*, and the cities adioyning, with fire and brimstone from heauen: for *Sodome* and the other cities did stand neare vnto *Iordan*, and to this *Mare mortuum*: for the destruction of whome, all that coast to this day is a witnes: the earth smelling of brimstone, being desolate, and yeelding no fruite lating apples: and such, which growing with a taste thew to the eye like other fruite: as soon as they are touched, turneth presently to ashes: as besides *Josephus*, *Solinus* dooth witnes.

The land of *Palestina* had for his inhabitants, all the 12. tribes of *Israel*, which were vnder one kingdome, till the time of *Rehoboam* the sonne of *Salomon*. But then were they deuided into two kingdomes: ten tribes being called *Israel*, and two, being named *Iuda*, whose chiefe cite was called *Ierusalem*. Then the tribes after much idolatrie, were caried prisoners into *Affrica*, and the kingdome dissolued: other people being placed in their roome in *Syria*, and the countie adioyning.

The other two tribes, were properly called the *Iewes*, and their land *Iudea*, which continued long after in *Ierusalem*, and thereabout, till the captiuitie of *Babylon*: where they liued for 70. yeares. They were afterward restored: but liued without glory till the coming of *Christ*. But since his time, for a curse vpon them and their children, for putting *Christ* to death: they are scattered vpon the face of the earth as runnagates: without certaine countie, King, Priest, or Prophet.

In their chiefe cite *Ierusalem* was the Temple of God,
first

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first most gloriously built by Salomon: and afterward destroyed by Nabuchadneffer. By the commaundement of Cyrus, King of *Persia*, was a second Temple built, much more base then the fourmer: for besides the pouerty, and smalnesse of it, there wanted 5. things which were in the former, as the Iewes write. First the arke of the couenant: secondly the pot of Manna: thirdly the rod of Aron: fourthly the 2. tables of the lawe, written by the finger of God: and fiftly the fire for the sacrifice which came downe from heauen. Herod the great, an Edomite stranger, hauing gotten the kingdome, contrary to the lawe of Moses: and knowing the people to be offended therewithall: to procure their fauour, did builde a third Temple, much more glorious then the second, which was that Temple, wherein our sauiour Christ and his Apostles, did teach.

The City of Ierusalem was twise taken, & vtterly laid desolate: first by Nabuchadneffer at the captiuitie of Babilon: and secondly after the death of Christ by Vespasian the Romaine (who first began the siege) and by his son Titus, who was afterward Emperour of Rome: who brought such horrible desolation on that city, & the people thereof by fire, sword, and famine, that the like hath not bin read in any history. He did afterward put thousands of them on some one day, to be deuoured by the beastes, which was a cruell custome of the Romaine magnificence.

After this destruction, the land of *Iudea*, and the ruines of Ierusalem, were possessed by some of the people adioining, till that about 600. yeares since, the Sarazens did inuade it: for the expelling of whome from thence, diuers Frenchmen, and other Christians, vnder the leading of Godfrey of Bullen, did assemble themselues: thinking it a greate shame, that the Holy land as they called it, the city of Ierusalem, & the place of the sepulcher of Christ, should be in the hands of the Infidels.

C

This

De Arabia.

This Godfrey ruled in Ierusalem by the name of a Duke: but his successours after him, for the space of sixe score yeares, called themselues Kings of Ierusalem: about which time, Saladine who called himselfe King of *Egipt*, and *Asia* the lesse, did win it from the Christsians: for the recouery whereof, Richard the first, King of England, together with the French King, and the King of *Sicilia*, did go in person with their armies to Ierusalem: but although they wonne many thinges from the Infidels, yet the ende was, that the Sarazens did retaine the holy land.

The whole country, and city of Ierusalem, are nowe in the dominion of the Turke: who notwithstanding for a great tribute, doeth suffer many Christsians to abide there. There are therefore nowe 2. or more monasteries, and religious houses where Friers doe abide, and make a good commodity of shewing of the sepulcher of Christ, and other monuments vnto such Christsian pilgrims, as doe vse superstitiously to go in pilgrimage to the holy land. The King of Spaine calleth himselfe at this day, King of Ierusalem.

De Arabia.

NExt vnto the Holy land, lieth the greate country of *Arabia*, hauing on the North-parte *Palestina*, and *Mesopotamia*: on the East the gulse of *Persia*: on the South the maine Ocean of *India* or *Ethiopia*: on the west, *Egipt*, and the great bay called *Sinus Arabicus*, or the redde sea. This country is deuided into three parts: the North parte whereof, is called *Arabia Deserta*: the South parte, which is the greatest, is named *Arabia felix*, & in the middle betweene both, which for the aboundance of Rockes and Stones, is called *Arabia, Petrea*, or *Petrosa*. The desart of *Arabia*

De Arabia.

rabia, is that place, in the which God after the deliuey of the Isralites from *Egipt*, by passing through the red sea, did keepe his people vnder Moses for 40. yeares: Because of their rebellio, feeding the in the meane time with Manna frō heauē, and sometimes with water miraculously drawn out of dry rocks: for the country hath very litle water, almost no trees, and is viterly vnfit for tillage or corn. There are no townes nor inhabitants in all this defart in *Arabia Petrosa*, are some, but not many.

Arabia Felix, for fruitfulness of the ground, & cōuenient standing euery way toward the sea, is one of the best countries of the world: but the principall cause, why it is called *Felix*, is for that it yeeldeth many things in abundance, which in other parts of the world are not to be had: as frācūmence, especially the most precious balmes, mirche, & many other, both fruits and spices, and it yeeldeth withal, store of some precious stones.

This is that country wherein Mahomet was borne, who being of meane parentage, was brought vp in his youth in the trade of merchandise. But afterward ioyning himselfe with theeues & robbers: his life was to rob such merchants as passed through *Arabia*, & to this purpose, hauing gotten together many of his owne countrymē: he had afterwards a whole legion or more of the Romaine souldiers: who being offended with *Heraclius* the Romaine Emperor, for want of their pay ioyned theselues to him: so that at length he had a great armie, wherewith he spoyled the countries adioyning.

To maintain his credit & authority with his owne men, he fained that hee had conference with the holy Ghost, at such time, as he was trobled with the falling sicknes, & accordingly he ordained a new religion, consisting partly of Iewish ceremonies, & partly of Christiā doctrine, & some other things of his own inuention, that he might enueagle both Iewes & Christians, and yet by his own fancy distin-

De Arabia.

guish his followers from both. The booke of his religion is called the Alcoran. The people which were his Seotaries, whereas indeed they came of Hagar the handmaid of Sara, Abrahams wife : and therefore should of her be called Ismaelites, or Hagareus; because they would not seeme to become of a bond-woman : and from him whome they suppose a bastard : they tearme themselues Sarazens, as comming from Sara, they are called by some writers, Arabians in steede of Saracens, their name beeing drawne from their first Countrie.

In the country of *Arabia*, standeth a city called *Mecha*, which is the place where Mahomet was buried, and in remembrance of him, is there built a greate Temple : vnto the which, the Turks and Sarazens doe yearly go on pilgrimage, as some Christians do to the Holy land. For they accompt Mahomet to bee the greatest Prophet that euer came into the world : saying that there were three greate Prophets : Moses, Christ, and Mahomet ; as the doctrine of Moses was bettered by Christ : so is the doctrine of Christ amended by Mahomet. In this respect, as we reckon the computation of our yeares, from the incarnation of Christ so the Sarazens accompt theirs, from the time of Mahomet. The Turks, whose fame began now about 300. yeares since, haue embraced the opinions and religion of the Sarazens, concerning Mahomet.

On the west-side of *Arabia*, betweene that and Egypt, lieth the gulfe called of the country, *Sinus Arabicus*, by some *Mare Erythreum* : but commonly the red sea, not of one *Erythrus* as some suppose : but because the sand and bankes there about are in colour red. This is that Sea through the which, by Moses, the people of Israell were led, when they fled out of Egypt from Pharaos. God causing by his power, the waters to stand on both sides of them, that they passed through, as on drie land.

This

De Africa & Egipto.

This is that sea through the which the spices of the East Indies were in times past brought to *Alexandria*, in *Egipt*, and so thence, dispersed into Christendome by the Venitians: which spices, and Apothicary drugs, are found to be far worse then before time they were, by reason of the great moisture, which they take on the water, by the long nauigation of the Portugales, by the backe part of *Africa*.

This is that sea, through the which, Salomon did send for his golde, and other precious merchandise vnto the East Indies; and not to the west Indies as some lately haue disputed. Whereout, the vanity of that opinion may appeare, that America & the west Indies were known in the time of Salomon: for if he had sent thither, his course had bene along the *Med*, and through the straights of *Gibralter*, commonly called *Fretum Herculeum* between Spaine and Barbary. But the Scripture telleth, that the name which Salomon sent forth, was built at *Eseon Gabar*: which there also is said to stand on the red sea: so his course might be East-ward, or South-ward, not west-ward.

In the desert of *Arabia*, is the mount *Horeb*: which by some is supposed to bee the same that is called the mount *Sina*: where many thinke it was, that Abraham shoulde haue offered vp his sonne *Isaac*: but it is certaine, it was the place, where God in the wilderness, did giue vnto the people of Israel his law of the ten commaundements: in thundring, lightning, and earth-quake, in most fearefull manner.

De Africa & Egipto.

From *Arabia*, and *Palesina*, toward the West, lieth *Africa*: having on the North side, from the one end of it to the other, the *Mediter Sea*. The greatest part of which

De Africa & Aegypto.

country, although it hath bene gessed at by writers in former time, yet because of the great heat of it, lying for the most part vnder the *Zona Torrida*, and for the wildernesses therein: it was in former times supposed by many, not to bee much inhabited: but of certainty by all, very little discovered, till the Portingales of late, began their navigation on the backe-side of *Africa*, to the East Indies. So exact a discription is not therefore to be looked for, as hath bene of *Asia*, and *Europa*.

Ioyned to the Holy land, by a little Isthmos is the country of *Egypt*, which is a land most frutfull, as any almost in the world, although in these daies it doeth not answere to the fertility of former time. This is it which, in the time of Ioseph did relieue Canaan with corne, and the family of Iacob, which did so multiply in the land of *Egypt*: that they were grown to an huge multitude: when God by Moyse did deliuer them from thence. This country did yeeld exceeding abundance of corne, vnto the citie of Rome, wherupon, *Egypt* as well as *Sicilia*, was commonly called *Horreum populi Romani*.

It is obserued from all antiquitie, that almost netier any raime did fall in the land of *Egypt*: wherupon the raining, with thunder, & lightning, & fire running on the ground, was so much the more strange: when God plagued Pharaoh in the daies of Moses. But the flowing of the riuer Nilus ouer all the country (their cities onely and some fewe hills excepted) doth so water the earth, that it bringeth forth fruit abundantly. The flowing of which riuer yearly, is one of the greatest miracles of the world, no man being able to yeelde a sufficient, and assured reason thereof: although in Herodatus, and Diodorus Siculus, many probable causes, and opinions are assigned thereof.

It is noted of this riuer, that if in ordinarie places, it do flow vnder the height of 15 Cubits, that for want of moisture,

sure, the yeare is not fruitfull: and if it doe flowe above
seuenteene cubites, that there is like to be a dearth, by rea-
son of the abundance of the moisture, the water lying
longer on the land then the inhabitants doe desire.

In Egypt hath learning bin very auncient. But especially
the knowledge of Astronomy & Mathematicks, whereof
before the time of Tully, their Priestes would report that
they had the discent for 1500. yeares exactly recor-
ded, which obseruation astrological: which as it is a fa-
ble, vlesse they doe reckon their yeares by the Moone,
as some suppose they did euery moneth for a yeare: so it
doth argue knowledge to haue beene among them very
auncient: their Priestes had among them a kinde of wri-
ting, and describing things by picture: which they did cal
their *Hieroglyphica*.

This in times past, was a kingdome, and by the Kinges
thereof was built, those great *Pyramides*, which were held
to be one of the 7. wonders of the worlde, being mighty
huge buildings, erected of exceeding height for the mag-
nificence of their founders. There is part of two or three
of them remaining vnto this day. In *Egypt* did stand the
great city *Memphis*, which is at this day called *Cairo*, one
of the famous cities of the East. Here did Alexander build
that city, which vnto this day is of his name called *Alexan-
dria*, beeing nowe the greatest cite of merchandise in all
Egypt: of which *Ammianus Marcellinus* doth obserue
that there is neuer any day, or almost hath euery day: but
that once in that day, the sun hath beene seene to shine o-
uer *Alexandria*. This city was one of the 4. patriarchicall
seas, and remaineth so at this time.

This country was gouerned by a King, as long agoe
as almost any in the worlde. Heere raigned Amasis, who
made those good lawes, spoken of by Herodatus, & Dio-
dorus Siculus, in whose writings the auncient customes of
the

De Cyrene & Africa minori.

the Egyptians, are worthy to be read.
After Alexanders time: Ptholomy, one of his captaines
had this kingdome, of whome all his successors were cal-
led Ptholomeis, as before time, all their Kings were called
Pharao. They continued long friends, and in league with
the people of Rome, til the time of Iulius Cesar: but after-
ward they were as subjects to the Romanes, till the Em-
pire did decay.

When they had withdrawne themselves from the Ro-
maine government, they set vp a Prince of their owne:
whome they rearme, the Sultā, or Souldan of *Egypt*: of
whome, about 400. yeares since, Saladine was one. But
whē the race of these was out, the Mamelukes (who were
the garde of the Sultā, as the Janizaries to the Turke) ap-
pointed a Prince at their pleasure, till that nowe about an
100. yeares agoe, or lesse: the Turke possessed him selfe
with sole government of the country: so that at this day,
Egypt is wholly vnder the Turke.

There be Christians that now liue in *Egypt*, for their tri-
bute vnto the Turke, as they doe now in *Grecia*.

De Cyrene & Africa minori.

ON the west-side of *Egypt*, lying along the *Mediterr-*
ran. is a country which was called in olde time *Cy-*
rene: wherein did stand that Oracle which was so famous
in the time of Alexander the great, called by the name of
the Temple or Oracle of *Iupiter Hammon*: whither, when
Alexander did repaire, as to aske counsell of himselfe and
his successe: the Priestes beeing before taught what they
should say: did flatteringly professe him to be the son of a
God: and that he was to be adored; so that as the Oracle of
Delphos, and some other were plaine delusions of Satan:
who

De Cirene & Africa minori.

who did raigne in that darke time of ignorance: so this of *Iupiter Flammon*, may bee wel supposed to be nothing els: but a counsaige of the Priests.

In this country and all neare about where the Oracle stooode, are very greate wildernesses: where did appeare to Alexander for foure dayes iourney: neither Grasse, Tree, Water, Man, Bird, nor Beast: but onely a deepe kinde of sand, so that he was inforced to carry water with him for himselfe and his company: and all other prouision on Cammels backs. At this day, this country hath lost his old name: and is reckoned as a part of *Egypt*: and lieth vnder the Turke.

Westward from hence, along the *Medeterran*: lieth the country which in auncient time was called *Africa minor*: for as in *Asia*, one part aboue another, was by an excellencie called *Asia*, or *Asia* the lesse: so this part of *Afrika* was termed by the Romaines, sometimes *Africa* simply: sometime *Africa* the lesse. In this country did stand that place so famous, mentioned by Salust: vnder the name of *Philens Ara*, which was the bound in that time, betweene *Africa* and *Cirene*.

On the North and East part hereof, in the sea neare vnto the shore, was that quicke-sand: which in times past, did destroy so many shippes: and was called *Syrtis magna*: as also, on the North and West parte, was the other sand, called *Syrtis parua*. Some part of this countrie was heretofore, vnder the Sultane of Egypt, whose dominion did extend it selfe so farre to the West: and there was deulded from the kingdome of *Tunis*: but it is now wholly vnder the Turke, and is commonly reputed as a parte of *Barbarie*. For now by a generall name, from the confines of *Cirene* vnto the West, as farre as Hercules his pillars, is called *Barbary*: though it containe in it diuers kingdomes, as *Tunis*, *Fessa*, and *Morocco*.

De Mauritania Casariensi.

A Part of that countrey, which by a generall name is called at this day *Barbary*, hath in olde time bin called *Mauritania*, which was deuided into two partes: the West part whereof next to *Africa minor*, was called by the Romaines *Mauritania Casariensis*, as the other was called *Mauritania Tingitana*. In *Mauritania Casariensis* was the countrie of *Numidia*, the people whereof were vsed in the warres of the *Carthaginians*, as light horsemen, and for all nimble seruices very actiue.

In the East part of this countrey standing in the Sea was that famous Citie of *Carthage*, supposed to be built by *Dido*, who came from *Tyrus*. This Citie was it which for the space of some hundreth yeares contended with *Rome* for the Empire of the world. In the Romaine histories are recorded three great warres which the people of *Rome* had with the Citie of *Carthage*.

In the first of the three, their contention was for the Iles of *Sicilia*, *Corfica*, and *Sardinia*: when the victorie fell to the Romaines, and the *Carthaginians* were glad to redeeme their peace with the leasing of those Ilands. The second warre was begunne by *Hanniball*, who brake the league, and after hee had taken some part of *Spaine* from the Romaines, and sacked *Saguntum*, a citie of their friends: came first ouer the *Pirene* hills to *Fraunce*: then ouer the *Alpes* to *Italie*, where he ouerthrew the Romaines in three great battailes, and much endaungering their state, continued in *Italie* with his armie for sixteene yeares: till *Scipio* attēpting on *Carthage*, forced *Hanniball* to returne to rescue his owne countrie. There was *Hanniball* overthrowne, and his citie put to a great pension by *Scipio*: who for his victorie there, was named *Africanus*.

In the third warre, because the people of *Carthage* still brake their league, their Citie was razed to the very ground, by the earnest and continuall counsaile of *Cato* the

De Mauritania Cesariensi.

the elder, fearing euermore so dangerous a neighbour, though Scipio Nasica counsell'd to the contrary, fearing least if the dread of that enemy were taken away, the Romaines would grow either to idleness or to ciuill dissentio, which after they did. It is reported of Cato, that he neuer spake his iudgement of any thing in the Senate, but his conclusion was thus: Thus I thinke for this matter, and withall, that Carthage is to be razed downe. And Scipio Nasica would reply in his conclusion: Thus I thinke of this matter, and withall, that Carthage is not to be razed downe.

In this country towards the West not far from Carthage stood *Vitica*, wherof the yonger Cato was termed *Cato Viticensis*, because he killed himself there, in the ciuill warres betweene Pompey & Caesar, because he would not come within the hands of his enemy Caesar. Not farre from thence Westward, standeth *Hippo*, which was the cite where S. Austen was Bishop. This whole countrey at this day is called the kingdome of *Tunis*, the King whereof, is a kinde of Suspendary vnto the great Turke. The people that inhabit there are generally Sarazens, and do professe Mahomet.

De Mauritania Tingitana.

THE other part of Barbaria that lieth along the *Mediterran.* farthest into the West, was called in old time *Mauritania Tingitana*. The people of which country were those, which almost in all old histories were called by the name of *Mauri*. Those of the other *Mauritanis* being rather termed *Namudi*.

Into the Northwest part hereof did Hercules come, and there did set vp one of his pillars, which answereth to the other in Spain. At the straights of *Gibraltar*, in times past called

De Mauritania Tingitana.

called *fretum Herculeum*. On the South part hereof, lay the kingdome of *Bocchus*, which in the time of *Marius* had so much to do with the *Romaines*. In the West part of this *Mauritania*, standeth the hills called *Atlas minor*: and on the South part is the great hill called *Atlas maior*: whereof the maine Ocean which lieth betweene *Mauritania* & *America*, is called *Mare Atlanticum*. This hill is so high, that vnto those who stood on the bottome of it, it seemed to touch heauen with his top: whereupon grew that fable of the Poets, that *Atlas* was a gyant, who held vp heauen with his shoulders.

This countrie hath bin long inhabited by the *Sarazens*, who from thence, finding it to be but a short passage into *Spaine*, did go ouer now seauen hundred yeres agoe: and possessed there the kingdome of *Granado* on the South side of *Spaine*: till they were thence expelled by *Ferdinandus* and *Elizabeth*, or *Isabell*, King and Queene of *Castile*.

In this country since that time, haue the *Spaniards* taken some cities and holdes: and so also haue the *Portingales*: which by the diuers euent of victorie, haue often bin lost, and wonne by them.

Here it was, that the Emperour *Charles* the fift had diuers of his great warres against the *Moores*, as well as in the kingdome of *Tunis*. For the assistance of one, who claimed to be King of a part of this countrey: did *Sebastian* the king of *Portingale* go with all his power into *Africa*, in the yeare 1578. where vnadvisedly bearing himselfe, he was slaine together, with two other, dying that day, who claimed to be kings: So that there it was, that the battell was fought: whereof it is said, that three Kings dyed in one day: which battaile was the ruine of the kingdome of *Portingale*: & the cause of the vnitng of it to the Crowne of *Spaine*. Astrologers did suppose, that the blaz-

De Mauritania, & Tingitania.

zing Starre which appeared the yeare before, did signifie that ill euent.

This whole countrie doth containe in it besides, some imperiall gouernment, two absolute Kingdomes: the one, the Kingdome of *Fezza*, or *Fes*, which lieth on the North part toward the *Mediter.* and *Spaine*. The other is the kingdome of *Marocco*, which lieth from about the hill *Atlas minor*, to the South and West part of *Mauritania*. These are both Sarazens, as be also their people: holding true league with the Turke, and with some other Christian Princes: a league onely for trafique or Merchandise.

De reliquis Africae regionibus maritimis.

FROM beyond the hils *Atlas maior*, vnto the South of *Africa*, is nothing almost in antiquitie worthie the reading, and those things which are written for the most part are fables. In the new Writers, there are some few things to be obserued. As first, that all the people in generall to the South, lying within the *Zona torrida*, are not only blackish like the Moores: but are exceedingly black. And therefore as in old time by an excellencie: some of them were called *Nigrita*, so at this day, they are named Negroes, as them, whome no men are blacker.

Secondly, the inhabitants of all these parts which on the sea coast, euen vnto *Caput bone spei*, haue bin Gentiles: adoring Images, and foolish shapes for their gods: neither hearing of Christ, nor beleeuing on Mahomet: till such time as Portingales comming in among them, haue professed Christ for themselues: but haue wonne few of the people to imbrace their religion. Thnirdly, that the Portingales passing along *Africa* vnto the East Indies, haue
setled

De reliquis Africae regionibus marii.

settled themselves in many places of those countries, building Castles and townes for their owne safetie, and to keepe the people in subiection to their great commoditie.

One of the first countries famous beyond *Marocco*, is *Guinea*, which we call *Ginnie*: within the compasse whereof, lyeth the Cape called *Cape Verde*: and the other, the Cape of the three pointes, and the towne and Castle named *Serra Liona*, at which places commonly, all trauellers doe touch that doe passe that way for fresh water, and other shippe provision. Our English men haue founde traffique into the partes of this countrie: where their greatest commoditie is gold, and Elephants teeth: of both which, growe there good store.

Beyond that toward the South, not far from the equinoctiall line: lyeth the kingdome of *Congo*, commonly called *Manicongo*: Where the Portingales at their first ariuall, finding the people to be heathens without God, did induce them to a profession of Iesus Christ: and to be baptized in great aboundance: allowing of the principles of Religion: vntill such times as the Prietts did teach them to leade their liues according vnto their profession: which the most parte of them in no case enduring, they returned baek againe vnto their Gentilisme.

Beyond *Manicongo*, so farre to the South as almost 10. degrees beyond the tropicke of Capricorne, lyeth the lands ende: which is a promontorie, now called by the name of *Caput bone spei*: Which Vascus Gama the Portingale did discouer: and so called it: because he had there good hope that the land did turne to the North: and that following the course thereof, he might be brought to *Arabia*, and *Persia*: but especially, to *Calicut* in *India*. Which course, when himselfe, and other of his countriemen after him did follow: they founde on the coast vp toward *Arabia*, the kingdome of *Mozambique*, *Melinde*, *Magadaxa*,
and

De Abissinis, & Impe. Presbit. Iohn.

and other: whose people were all Gentiles, and now are in league with the Portingales: who haue built diuers holdes for their safetie: of which countries and manners of the people: he that listeth to reade, may finde much in the histories of Olorius, and Petrus Mattheus. But there is no matter of any great importance.

De Abissinis, & Imperio Presbiteri Iohannis.

IN the inland of *Africa*, lyeth a very large countrie: extending it selfe on the East, to some part of the red sea: on the South, to the kingdome of *Melinde*, and a great way farther: on the North, vnto *Egipt*: on the West, vnto *Manicongo*, the people whereof are called *Abissini*: and it selfe, the dominion of him, whome wee commonly call in English, *Prester Iohn*: but in Latine some rearme him, *Præciosus Iohannes*, because of his riches: but the most part *Presbiter Iohannes*: writing of him, that as he is a prince absolute: so he hath also a priestlike, or patriarchall function & iurisdiction among the. This is a verie mightie prince, & reputed to be one of the greatest Emperors of the world.

What was knowne of this countrie in former time, was knowne vnder the name of *Ethiopia*: but the voyages of the Portingales in these late dayes haue best described it. The people therefore are Christians, as is also their prince: but differing in many things from the West Church: and in no sorte acknowledging any supream prerogatiue of the B. of Rome. It is thought that they haue retayned christianitie, euen from the time of our Sauiour, being supposed to be couerted by the Chamberlaine of Cambace the Q. of *Ethiopia*: who was instructed concerning Christ, by Phillip the Euang. in the *Actes* of the Apostles. Euse. in his Ecclesiastical story doth make mention of this. But they doe

De Abissinis, & Impe. Præsit. Iohn.

do to this day retaine Circumcision : whereof the reason may be, that the Eunuch their conuerter not hauing any further conference with the Apostle, nor any else for him, did receiue the ceremonies of the Church vnperfectly, retaining Circumcision : which among the Iewes was not abolished, when he had conference with Philip.

Within the dominion of Prester Iohn, the mountaines commonly called *Luna Montes*, where is the first well-spring and arising of the riuer *Nylus* : which riuer running violently along his countrey, and sometimes hastily increasing by the melting of much snow from the mountaines, would ouer-run and drowne a great part of *Egipt* : but that it is slaked by many Ponds, and Dams, and Sluces, which are within the dominion of Prester Iohn. And in respect hereof, for the maintenance of these : the Princes of *Egipt* haue paid vnto the gouernor of the *Abissines*, a great Tribute time out of mind : which of late, the great Turke supposing to be a custome needelesse, did deny : till the people of the *Abissines* by commandement of their Prince did breake downe their dammes : and drowning *Egipt*, did inforce the Turke to continue his pay, and to giue much money for the new making of them very earnestly, to his great charge, desiring a peace.

There be other Countries in *Africa*, as *Agisimba*, *Libia interior*, *Nubia*, and other, of whome nothing is famous. But this may be said of *Africa* in generall, that it bringeth forth store of all sorts of wilde beasts, as Elephants, Lyons, Panthers, Tigres, and the like : yea, according to the Prouerbe, *Africa semper aliquid apportat noui*. Oftentimes new and strange shapes of beasts are brought forth there. The reason whereof, is that the countrey being hot and full of wildernesses, which haue in them little water : the beasts of all sorts are inforced to meete at those few watering places that be, where oftentimes contrarie kinds haue

De Insulis septentrionalibus.

haue coniunction the one with the other: so that there arise newe kindes or species, which taketh part of both. Such a one is the Leopard begotten of the Lyon, and the beast called *Dardus*, and somewhat resembling either of them, And thus far of *Africa*.

De Insulis septentrionalibus.

THe Ilands that doe lie in the North, are in number almost infinite: the chiefe of them onely shal be briefly touched. Very farre to the North in the same clymate, almost with Sweeden that is vnder the very circle arctick, lyeth *Iceland*, called in olde time *Thula*, which was then supposed to be the farthest part of the world Northward, & therefore is called by Virgil, *Ultima Thule*: the countrie is colde, the people barbarous, and yeeldeth little comoditie sauing Haukes: in some part of the yeare there is no night at all. Southward from thence lyeth *Frizeland*, called in Latin *Frizelandia*, whereas the Frizeland ioyning to *Germanie*, is in Latin called *Frizia*. On the coast of *Germanie*, one of the seuentene prouinces is called *Zeland*, which containeth in it diuers Ilands, in whome little is famous, sauing that in one of them is *Flishing*, or *Flushing*, a towne of waire: and at Littleburge in an other, a place of good marte. The frates of the lowe countreies doe hold their prouince against the king of Spaine. These Ilands haue bene much troubled of late, with inundation of water.

The Iland that lyeth most West of any fame: is *Ireland*, which had in it heretofore many kings of their owne: but the whole land, is now annexed vnto the crowne of England: The people naturally are rude and superstitious: the

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countreie

De Insulis septentrionalibus.

countrie good and fruitfull: but that for want of tillage in diuers places, they suffer it to growe into bogges, and desertes. That is true of this countrie, which *Solinus* writeth of some other, that serpents and adders doe not breede there: and in the *Irish* timber of certaint experience, no spiders webbe is euer founde.

The most renowned *Ileland* in the world, is *Albion*, or *Britannia*: which hath heretofore contained in it, many seuerall kingdomes: but especially in the time of the Saxons. It hath now in it, the two kingdomes of *England* and *Scotland*: wherein are foure seuerall languages: that is, the English, which the ciuill Scots doe barbarously speake: the Welch tongue, which is the language of the olde Britaines: the Cornish, which is the proper speech of *Cornwall*: and the Irish, which is spoken by those Scots which liue on the West parte of *Scotland* neare vnto *Ireland*. The commodites of *England*, and pleasures, are well knowne vnto vs, and many of the may be expressed in this verse:

Anglia, Mons, Pons, Fons, Ecclesia femina lana.

This countrie which in olde time was inhabited by the *Britaines*, was entered vpon by the Romaines. First, vnder *Iulius Caesar*, & was long by the kept in subiection: but it was an error in them, when they wrote that *England* would breed nor keepe no Wolfe. It was afterward overrunne, and possessed long by the Saxons: of whom, 7. kings at once did raigne here. After that the Danes out of *Denmarke* did inuade it, and much molested it. And lastly, vnder the leading of their Duke *William*, The *Normans* did conquire it, and established that gouernement: which to this day doth continue. And from whome, as from the conquerour, our ordinarie computation is deriued. The Scots
were

were in times past a most barbarous people. Of whome Saint Ierome reporteth: that he sawe some of them in his time in Fraunce to feede on mans flesh. They were neuer wholly conquered by the Romaines.

There be very many little Ilandes adioyning vnto the great Iland *Britanie*. As at the very North-point of *Scotland* the *Oochades*, which are in number aboue 30. The chiefe whereof, is named *Orkney*: where the people are barbarous.

On the West-side of *Scotland* towards *Ireland*, lye the Ilandes called *Hebrides*: where inhabite the people ordinarily tearmed the Red-shankes. Nor farre from thence, is the Ile *Mona*, commonly called *The Ile of Man*. The peculiar iurisdiction of the Earles of *Darbie*, with homynage notwithstanding reserved vnto the crowne of England.

On the North-part of *Wales*, is the Iland of *Anglesey*: which is reputed a distinct shiere towards *Fraunce* side: on the South part of *England*, is the Ile of *Wight*: in Latine called *Vethis*: which is a good holde in the narrowe seas against the French. More neare *Fraunce*, are the Iles of *Garnesey*, and *Iernesey*, where they speake French, and are vnder the crowne of England. There be also many other, but of small accompt.

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneum.

There be many Ilands in the *Mediterran*, renowned in the old writers: but the chiefe of them onely shall be touched. From the pillars of *Hercules* going Eastward, are two Ilands not farre from *Spain*: which in times past were called *Insula Balneari*, for that the people oft then,

De Insulis, & Mari Mediterraneo

did vse, both for their delight and armour, Slings, which they continually almost carried aboute them. And wherunto, as Plinie writeth: they did traine vp their children from their yongest yeares. Not giuing them any meate, till they had from some Post or Beame cast it downe with a sling. Of these, were those Funditories, or Sling-casters, which the *Carthaginians*, and *Spaniards* did vse in their warres against the *Romaines*. The lesser of these which lyeth most West, was called in olde time *Minorica*: and at this day, *Minorica*. The bigger which lyeth more East, was called *Maiorica*: and now *Maiorica*. They are both vnder the dominian of the king of Spaine.

More Eastward in the sea called *Mare inferum*, or *Tyrrhenum*, lyeth the Iland of *Corfica* ouer against *Genua*, and direct Soutward from thence, lyeth the great Iland *Sardinia*: For the quiet possessing of which two, the wars were oftentimes reuiued betweene the olde *Carthaginians* and the *Romaines*. For these two Ilands lye in the middle very fitly. For both these are also at this day vnder the king of Spaine. And were the same which lately the Cardicall of Laurain would perswade the olde King of Nauarre in Fraunce, that if he would leaue his religion, and become a Papist. The Spanish king should yeeld him eyther *Sardinia*, or at the lest *Corfica*, in recompence of *Pampiluna*: and therest of the kingdome of *Nauarre*, which the Spaniards by force did detaine from him.

Further yet to the East, at the very poynt of the South-part of *Italy*, lyeth the great Iland of *Sicilia*, which some haue supposed to haue bene heretofore a part of the continent: but by an earth-quake and inundation of water, to haue bene rent off, and so made an Iland. The figure of this Cuntry, is *Triguetra*, or triangle three-square.

There was also great contention for the cuntry betweene

De Insulis in mari Mediterraneo.

tweene the *Carthaginians* and the *Romaines*: but the *Romaines* obtained it, and had from thence exceeding store of corne yearly: whereupon, *Sicilie* was called *Horreum P. Romani*. Here stood the goodly citie called *Siracusa*, which was destroyed and sacked by *Marcellus* the *Romaine*.

This was in times past a kingdome, where the two tyrants, the elder and the younger *Dionysius* did raigne: where *Hieroculus*, that great friend to the *Romaines* did remaine: It was afterward made a province, and governed by a *Prætor*, or *Deputie* of the *Romaines*: whereof, *Verres* was one so enueighed against by *Tullie*. It grew afterward to be a kingdome againe: insomuch, that *Tancredus* was king of *Cicilia*, who went to the taking of *Jerusalem* with *Richard* the second king of *England*. Here was likewise *Phalaris* the tyrant so famous, king of *Agri-gontum*.

This countrie is now also vnder the king of *Spaine*: who among other titles, calleth himselfe king of both the *Ciciles*, reckoning this land for one, and that part of *Italie* for another, which is now called *Calabria*: and was in the *Romaine* histories named *Magna Grecia*. There is nothing more renowned in all *Sicilia*, eyther with the newe or olde writers, then the mountaine *Actna*: which being on the out-side often couered with snowe, yet by a sulphurie, or brimstonie water, doth continually burne within: yea, so that whereas it was supposed in the ages last before vs, that the matter being consumed, the fire had ceased: twise in our age it hath broke forth againe, to the incredible losse of al the countrie adioyning: the ashes thereof, destroying townes and fruites which were within the compasse of many miles aboute.

This is that place whether *Empedocles* threw himselfe,

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneo.

selfe, that he might be reputed a God. This is it, where of Virgill doth make his tract called *Aenea*, which the Poets did report to be the shop of *Vulcan*: where the *Cyclops* did frame the thunderboltes for *Iupiter*: and to conclude, this is it which some of our grosse *Papistes* haue not feared to imagine to be the place of purgatorie.

Not farre South from *Sicile*, lyeth the little Iland called in old time *Melise*, whence those dogges come, which were so much desired vnder the name of *Canes Melitenses*. This is the countrie where *Saint Paul* was cast vp, after his shipwracke in his iourney to *Rome*: where the viper hangd on his hand, and did not hurt him.

This countrie is now called *Malta*, and is one of the places most renowned in the world, for the repelling of the *Turkes*: when *Soliman* the Emperour of them, did send against it a most mightie armie. It was then defended by those, who are called the knightes of *Malta*: which by sea, doe great spoyle to the gallies of the *Turke* that passe that way.

Neare vnto *Gracia* and *Peloponnesus*: on the West-side toward *Italie*, is the Ile *Corcyra*, now rearm'd *Corfu*: and not farre South from that, is *Cephalia*, and from thence South, is *Zant*: called by Virgill *Nemerosa*, *Zaxinthus*: all which Ilandes haue bin heretofore vnder the *Venetians*: but are now vnder the *Turke*.

In *Zaxinthus*, our English merchants haue an house of abode for their trafique. Southest from *Morea*, lyeth the great Iland *Creta*, where *Minos* sometimes did raigntie, so famous for his seueritie. This countrie was then called *Hecatompolis*, as hauing in it, an hundreth Townes and Cities.

The *Turkes* haue wonne this also long since from the *Venetians*: it is now called *Candie*, from whence cometh our

De Insulis in Mari Mediterraneo.

our ordinarie sugar of Candie. Betweene *Creta* and *Peloponnesus* lyeth *Cythera*, where was the fine Temple of *Venus*: who thereof by the Poets, is called *Cythera*.

The Ilandes are many, which doelye in the sea called *Mara Egeum*, from the bottome of *Greece*, into the top of the *Hellispont*: as all the *Cyclades*, *Euboea*, the great Iland *Samos*, & *Chios*, so *Seyra*, where *Achilles* was borne, and was king of that countrie. There is also *Lesbos*, and *Leinor*, *Mitilene* and *Ithaca*, where *Ulysses* was king, and *Andros*, whether *Themistocles* was sent by the Athenians for tribute: of which places, something may bee read in the olde historie of the Greekes. Divers of these did striue that *Homer* was borne in them: but of certaintie, many of those kings which *Homer* saith, came with *Agamemnon* to the siege of *Troy*: were kings but of these small Ilands.

Eastward from thence, not farre from some parte of *Natolia*, or *Asia the lesse*, is the Iland *Rhodus*: the friendship of the inhabitants whereof, was in auncient time very much desired by the Princes that had to doe that way. So that *Alexander* first, and the *Romaines* afterwarwardes, did embrace their league.

Here was that huge and mightie image of the Sunne, which was *Cholosus Rhodius*.

This countrie was long defended by those, who were called the *Knightes of the Rhodes*, against the power of the Turke: and it was a greate bulwarke, to defende *Christendome*: till that in the yeare one thousand five hundred twenty and two, *Solimon the great Turke* did winne it from the Christians by force. From thence Southward, is the Ile *Carpathus*: but in the farther end of the East-part of the *Mediterraneum* is *Cyprus*, which

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De Insulis in Mare Indico.

about 300. yeares since was a kingdome, and did afford great aide to the Christians, that went to conquer the Holy land: but it is nowe vnder the Turke. The chiefe City thereof is *Famagusta*, which is an Archbishopssee: for Christians for their tribute doe yet liue there. In this countrey in olde time was Venus much honoured, and thereof it was called *Cypria*, as also *Paphia*: because shee had a Temple in a city there called *Paphos*.

Neare vnto *Siris* stode the Iland *Tirus*, against the pride whereof, the Prophets doe so much speake. This was a rich citie for merchandise, and nauigation in olde time, and is the place from whence *Dido* and the builders of *Carthage* did come.

The destruction of it is most famous by Alexander the greate. Of the rest of the small Ilandes, wee doe say nothing.

De Insulis in Mare Indico.

THe Ilandes are very many that doe lie in the seas adioyning to the East Indies: but the most famous among them shall bee touched. Among the old writers, as especially appeareth by *Solinus*, was well knowne that which was then called *Taprobana*, which lieth vnder the Equinoctiall line. It was in that time Monarchy, where the Kings reigned, not by succession, but by election: and if any of them did grow intollerable, he was deposed, and inforced to die, with withdrawing from him all things necessary. This is nowe called *Samatra*, and hath in it diuers Kings.

Not far fro thence lye Eastward the two Ilandes called *Iaua maior*, and *Iaua minor*: which were also known to the old

De Insulis in Mare Indico.

olde writers, they haue also in them diuers Kings, as in general may be noted, that at the East part, either in the continent, or in the Iland, haue very many small Kings and kingdomes. From thence yet more East, lieth a great number of Iles, which are now called the *Molucces*, which are places as rich for their quantity as any in the world. From these it is, that the Spaniards haue yearly so greate quantity of all kindes of spice: neither is there any place of all the East Indies that do more richly furnish home their caracters then do these Molucces.

Some of these Ilandes, the Spaniards haue gotte into their owne possession: with the Kings of some other they haue league: and a third sorte vicerly detest them. More North-ward ouer against China, lieth a greate Iland called *Japans* or *Japan*: the people whereof, are much of the same nature with the men of China. This countrey was first discovered by the Iesuites, who in a blinde zeale haue trauailed vnto the furthest partes of the worlde, to winne men to their religion: this Ilande is thought to be very rich. The rest that bee either neare vnto *China*, or vnto *India*, because there is little written of them wee passe ouer.

De Insulis in Mari Atlantico.

Here bee many Ilands which lie west-ward from *Africa*, and from *Europe*, as those which are called the *Gargades*, that lie in the same climate with *Gumee*, which are foure in number: but not inhabited by men: but they are full of Goates. North-ward from thence in the same climate with the South parte of *Marocco*, lie those which are called *Cayals*, or the fortunate Ilandes, which are
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De Insulis in Mari Atlantico.

seauen in number, being most fruitful and very pleasant
and therefore called by that name. This is famous in them
that it hath pleased all Cosmographers, to make their Me-
ridiane to bee the first poynte where they then beginne
to reckon the computation of their Longitude, and ymo-
them after three hundred and threescore degrees, to re-
turne againe. From these Ilands is it that those strong and
pleasant sackes which are called Canari wines are brought,
and from thence are fetched those which they call Ca-
narie Birdes: these Ilandes are vnder the Crowne of
Spaine.

More Northward from thence, lye those Ilands which
are called *Azores insule*, being sixe or seuen in number:
of which *Tercera* is one of the chiefe; of whom, the rest
by some are called the *Terceras*, which are farre infer-
riour in fruitfulnessse vnto the Canaries, these were first
vnder the Crowne of Portugale, and one of them was
the last which was kepte out from the King of Spaine by
the Priour don Antonio, who nowe calleth himselfe King
of Portugale: but the Spaniard at the last tookethis *Tercera*
from him, and doth possesse all these Ilandes toge-
ther with the rest of the dominion, which did belonge to
the Portingale.

De America siue Orbe nono.

Although some doe dispute out of Plato, and the old
writers that there was not onely a gesse, but a kinde
of knowledge in auncient time that besides *Europia*, *Asia*,
and *Africa*: there was another large countrey lying to the
West, yet he that shall aduisedly vse the coniectures made
there vppon, may see that there is nothing of sufficiency

De America siue orbe nouo.

to enforce any such knowledge: but that all antiquitie was vtterly ignorant of the newe founde countries toward the west: whereunto this one argument most forcible may giue credite: that at the first arriuing of the Spaniards, there they founde in those partes nothing shewing trafique or knowledge of any other Nation, but the people naked, yncivil, some of them deuourers of mans flesh, ignorant of shipping, without all kinde of learning, hauing no remembrance of history or writing: among them, neuer hauing heard of any such religion as in other places of the world is knowne: but being vtterly ignorant of scripture, of Christ, or Moyses, or any God: neither hauing among them any token of crosse, Church, Temple or deuotion, as beeing with other Nations.

God therefore remembering the prophecy of his sonne, that the Gospell of the kingdome shoulde before the day of iudgement, bee preached, in all coastes and quarters of the world: and in his mercy intending to free the people, or at the least some fewe of them from the boundage of Satan, who did detaine them in blockish ignorance, and from their idolatrous seruice, vnto certaine vile spirits, whome they called their *Zemes*, and most obsequiously did adore them: and myse dyppre the spirit of a man worthy of perpetuall memorie: one *Christopherus Columbus*, borne at *Genoa* in *Italy*, to set his mind to the discouery of a new world: Who finding by that compasse of the olde known world, that there must needs be a much more mighty space, which the sun by his dayly motiō did compass about, then that which was already knowen and discovered: and concluding that this huge quantity, might as well by land as sea, could neuer satisfie himselfe, til that he might attempt to make prooffe of the verity thereof.

- Being therefore himselfe a private man, & of more ver-

De America sine orbe nouo.

are then abilitie. After his reasons, and demonstrations
layd downe: whereby he might enduce men, that it was
no vaine thing which he went aboute. He went vnto ma-
ny of the princes of Christendome: and among other,
vnto Henry the seventh, then king of England: desir-
ing to be furnished with shipping and men, fit for such a
nauigation. But these men refusing him a party, because
they gave no credit vnto his new narration: and partly,
least they should be derided by their neighbour princes,
if by this Genoway stranger they should be soulered.
But especially, for that they were unwilling to sustaine the
charges of shipping. As last he breaketh his selfe into the
court of Ferdinandus & Elizabeth king & Queene of Cas-
tile: where also at the first, he found but cold entertain-
ment: yet persisting in his purpose without fauour, and
with great importunitie: it pleased God to moue the mind
of Elizabeth the Queene, to deale with her husband to
furnish him forth two shippes for the discouery noche, and
not for conquest. Whereupon, Columbus in the yeare
1492. accompanied with his brother Bartholomew Co-
lumbus, and many Spanyards, sayled firste to the West,
for the space of 60. dayes and more: with the great indig-
nation and often mutinies of his company: fearing that by
reason of their long distance from home, they should ne-
uer returne againe. In so much, that the generall, after
many perswasions of them to goe forward, was at length
enforced to craue but three dayes: wherein, if they sawe
not land, he promised to returne: and God did so blesse
him, to the end that this voyage might not proue in vaine,
that in that space, one of his company did espie fire: which
was a certaine argument that they were neare to the lande
as it fell out in deede. The first land whereunto they came
was an Iland, called by the inhabitants *Heim*. But in re-
membrance of *Spaine* fro whence he came: he tearmed it
Hispaniola.

Hispaniola, and finding it to bee a country full of pleasures and hauing in it aboundance of gold and pearle, hee proceeded farther, and discovered another bigge Ile which is called *Cuba*, of the which being very glad, with great treasure, hee returned vnto Spaine, bringing ioyfull newes of his happy successe.

The Spaniards who by nature are a people proud, haue since the death of Columbus, labored to obscure his fame, enuying that an Italian, or stranger, should be reported to be the first discoverer of those parts, and therefore haue in their writings since, giuen forth: that there was a Spaniard which had first beene there, and that Columbus meeting with his cardes and descriptions, did but pursue his enterprise, and assume the glory to himselfe. But this fable of theirs, doth sauer of the same spirit: wherewithall many of them in his life time did reproach him, that it was no matter of importance to find out these countries: but that if he had not done it, many other might, and would: which, being spoken to Columbus at a solemne dinner, he called for an egge, and willed all the guests one after another to set it vpon ende, which when they could not doe, he gently brusing the one ende of it, did make it flatte and so set it vp: by imitation wherof, each of the other did the same: whereby hee mildly did reproach their enuy toward him, and shewed how easie it was to doe that which a man had seene done before him. To goe forward, therefore Columbus being returned to Castile after his welcome to the Princes, was made greate admirall of Spaine, and with a newe flecte of more shippes, was sente to search farther, which he accordingly did, and quickly founde the maine land, not far of from the Tropicke of Cancer, which parte of the country, in honour of Spaine, he called *Hispaniola*, and in respect wherof, at this day the King of Spaine doth

doth entitle himselfe *Hispaniarum Rex*. They founde the people both of the maine land and Ilands, very exceeding in number: naked without clothes, or armour: sowing no corne, but making their breade of a kinde of roote which they call Maies. Men most ignorant of all kinde of learning: admiring the Christians as if they had beene sent downe from heauen, and thinking them to bee immortal: wondring at their shippes, and the tackeling thereof: for they had no shippes of their owne: but bigge troughes which they call their Canoes: beeing made hollowe of the body of one Tree, with the sharpe bones of fishes: for yron, or such like instrumentes they haue none.

The Spaniards did here finde the people to bee most simple, without fraude, giuing them kinde entertainment according to their best manner, exchanging for knifes, and glasse, and such like toyes, greate abundance of gold and pearle.

The desire whereof, caused the Spaniards to seeke farther into the countries: but the Tyrannie and couetousnesse of the Spaniards was such, in taking from them their goodes, in deflouring their wines and daughters: but especially in forcing them to labour in their golde mines without measure, as if they had beene beastes: that the people detesting them, and the name of Christians for their sakes, did some of them kill themselves, and the mothers destroyed their children in their bellies, that they might not bee borne to serue so hatefull a Nation: and some of them did in warre conspire against them: so that by slaughter and otherwise, the people of the country are almost all wasted nowe within an 100. yeates, beeing before many millions: those which remaine, are as slaues, and the Spaniards almost onely do inhabit those partes.

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De Partibus Americae versus &c.

By reason that the country is exceeding rich and fruitfull, the Spaniards with great desire did spreade themselves toward the North, where they founde some more resistance: although nothing in comparison of warriours: but the greatest of their labour was, for to conquer the kingdome of *Mexico*: which *Mexico* is a Citie very greate and populous, as almost any in the worlde, standing in the midst of a greate marsh or fenne. The conquerour of this was *Ferdinandus Cortesius*, so much renowned in Spaine vnto this day.

In the sea coastes of all this *Nova Hispania*: the Kings of Spaine haue built many townes and Castels, and therein haue erected diuers fornaces and forges, for the trying and fining of their gold.

De Partibus Americae versus

Septentrionem.

The rumour of the discouery of these partes beeing blown ouer Christendome: and the great quantity of the land, together with the fruitfulness thereof being reported abroad, some other nation did enterprise to set foot therein: as namely the Frenchmen, who sent certain ships vnto a part of this country, lying North from *Hispania* naua some few degrees without the Tropicke of *Cancer*: into which when they had arriued because of the continual greenes of the ground, and trees, as if it had bin a perpetuall spring, they called it *Florida*: where after some few of the had for a time sedd themselves, the Spaniards tooke notice of it, & being vnwilling to endure any such neighbours, they came suddainely on them, and most cruelly slewe

De Partibus Americae versus &c.

flewethem all, without taking any ranfome, yet the Spaniards for want of men are not able to enhabit that country, but leaue it to the old people.

The Englishmen also desirous by navigation to adde something vnto their owne country, as before time they had traualled toward the farthest North parte of *America*, so lately finding that parte which lieth betweene *Florida*, and *Nova Francia*, was not enhabited by any Christians, and was a land very fruitfull and fitte to plant in, they sent thither two severall times, two severall companies, as Colonies to enhabit that parte which in remembrance of the virginie of their Queene, they named *Virginia*. But this voyage beeing enterprised on the charge of private men: and not thorowly beeing followed by the State: the possession of this *Virginia* is nowe discontinued, and the country at this present left to the old inhabitants.

Northward from thence on the sea coast, lieth *Norombega*, which is the South parte of that which the Frenchmen did without disturbance of any Christian for a time possesse.

For the Frenchmen did discover a large part of *America*, vptoward the circle Arctick, and did build there some townes, and named it of their owne country *Nova Francia*.

The Englishmen about the yeare 1570. did adventure farre, for to open the North partes of *America*, and sayled as far as the very circle Arcticke, hoping for to have found a passage by the North to the *Moluccas* and to *China*, which hitherto neither by the North of *Asia*, nor by the North of *America* could be effected by them, by reason of the very great colde and yle in that clymate. The rest of the inland being an huge space of earth, hath not hitherto by any Christian, to any purpose beene discovered: but
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by those neare the sea coasts it may be gathered, that they all which doe there inhabite : are men rude and vnciuill, without knowledge of God. Yet on the North-west part of *America*, some of our Englishmen going through the straights of *Magellon*, and passing toward the North by *Hispania noua*, haue touched on a countrey where they found good entertainment: and the King therof yeelding himselfe to the subiection of the Queene of England: whereupon they termed it *Noua Albion*.

De Peru & Brasilia.

WHen the Portingales had first begun their navigation by *Africa* vnto the East Indies: some of them intending to haue helde their course Eastwarde vnto *Caput bonae spei*: were driuen so farre west-ward by tempest: that they landed in a large and great countrey, which by a generall name, is called *Brasilia*: where they began to enter trafique, & with Townes and Castles to plant themselves, before that the Spantards had discouered *Peru*: which is the South part of *America*. So that at this day, whatsoeuer the King of Spain hath in *Brasilia*, it is in right of the crown of Portingale. The countrey is large, hauing in it many people and seuerall kingdomes which are not all possessed by the Portingals: but so, that other Christiāns, as namely the Frenchmen, being driuen out of their countrey for religion: haue set footing there, though afterwards againe they haue abandoned it.

The inhabitants hereof, are men also vnterly vnlearned: but men more ingenious then the common sort of the *Americans*: goodly of body, and straight of proportion, going alwaies naked, reasonable good warriours after their

country fashion: vsing to eat such enemies as they take in the warres, that afterwarde they may deuoure them, which they doe with great pleasure. For diuers of the people of these quarters, as the Caribis and the Canibals, and almost all are eaters of mans flesh. In this countrey groweth abundance of that wood, which since is brought into *Europ* for to die red colours: and is of the place whence it cometh, called *Brazill-wood*, the trees whereof are exceeding great.

After that the Spanyards had for a time possessed *Hispania nana*, for the desire of golde and pearle: some of them trauelled towards the South. And as by water they found that sea Westward from *Peru*, which is alwayes very calme, and is by them called the South-sea: as the other wherein *Cuba* standeth, is tearmed the North-sea: so by land, they found that huge and mightie countrie which is named *Peru*: Wherein the people are for the most parte very barbarous, and without God. Men of great stature: yea, some of them farre higher then the ordinarie sorte of men in Europe: vsing to shoote strongly with bowes made of fishe bones: most cruell people to their enemies. Among these, the Spanyards partly by force: but especially by perfidious treason, did get infinite sommes of gold and pearle, wherewith being allured, and hoping for more: by reason that a great parte hereof, lyeth vnder the *Zona Torrida*.

They haue here and there scatteringly vpon the sea-coastes, set vp some Townes and Castles: but are not able to possesse almost any thing of the land. Neither haue they as yet, discovered the inward partes thereof. Some of these Spanyards desirous for to see how farre this land of *Peru* did goe towards the South, trauelled downe till at length they founde the lands end, & a little straight or narrow

row sea: which did runne from the maine *Ocean* towards *Africa* into the South sea. One Magellanus was he that found this straight: and although it be dangerous, passed thorowe it: so that of his name, it is called *Fretum Magellanicum*, or Magilanus straightes. And this is the wayes whereby, as the Spanyards doe passe to the back-side of *Perue*, and *Hispania nova*. So, whoseuer will compasse the whole world, as some of our English haue done: He must of necessitie, for any thing that is yet knowne, passe thorowe this narrowe straight.

Magellanus did finde on the other side towardes the Pole, the maine continent: which also the Portingales in their voyages to the East *Indies*, haue sometimes bene driuen vnto: whereof nothing is discouered. But that in one place they did see aboundance of Parats, and greater then ordinarie: whereof they did call it *Phittacorum regio*.

This is thought to be a mightie huge cuntry, conteyning in compasse all the degrees of longitude, in the continent thereof: and supposed to goe vnto the South pole: By reason that no sea is yet founde to breake in, or breake through the same.

There be also described by some of our late writers, certaine great Landes towardes the North-pole. And our English-men in their Nauigations, haue touched *Grone-land*: but the nature of them, and whither they be such, and so many as is reported, is not certainly knowne.

FINIS.

